

REMARKS

1. In response to the Office Action mailed July 27, 2005, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration. Claims 53-107 and 109-113 were last presented for examination. In the outstanding Office Action, claims 97, 102 and 109-113 were rejected, claims 53-96 were allowed, and claims 98-101 and 103-107 were objected to. By the foregoing Amendments, claims 97-107 and 109-113 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added in this paper. Thus, upon entry of this paper, claims 53-107 and 109-113 will remain pending in this application. Of these sixty (60) claims, four claims (claim 53, 73, 91 and 97) are independent. Based on the above Amendments and following Remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding objections and rejections be reconsidered, and that they be withdrawn.

Art of Record

2. Applicants acknowledge receipt of form PTO-892 identifying additional references made of record by the Examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 53-96 are allowable and that claims 98-101 and 103-107 would be in condition for allowance if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of their respective base claims and any intervening claims.

Claim Objections

4. The Examiner has objected to claim 102 because of various informalities. Claim 102 has been amended to correct these deficiencies thereby accommodating the objection. Withdrawal is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

5. Claims 97, 102, 109-113 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,166,864 to Chitwood, *et al.* (hereinafter, "Chitwood").

6. Applicants have amended claims 97-113 to convert the claims from apparatus claims to method claims. As amended, claim 97 recites “[a] method for manufacturing a printed circuit board comprising: ... selecting a composition and thickness of each of a dielectric coating and a conductive coating of a conformal EMI shield such that, when applied to a surface of the printed wiring board having one of said at least one surface trace disposed thereon, said one surface trace has a desired characteristic impedance; applying the conformal EMI shield to the printed circuit board such that it conformingly adheres to surfaces of said printed circuit board including said surface of said printed wiring board having said one surface trace disposed therein and such that said dielectric coating has said selected composition and thickness and said conductive coating has said selected composition and thickness, with said dielectric coating being interposed between said conductive coating and said printed circuit board surfaces.” (*See*, claim 97, above.)

7. Chitwood discloses a printed circuit board conformal coating having dielectric layers 26, 28, and metallic layers 32-40 applied directly to the entire printed circuit board. (*See*, Chitwood, col. 2, ln. 58-col. 3, ln. 34.) Chitwood fails to teach or suggest a method for applying a conformal EMI shield to a surface of a printed circuit board that includes “selecting a composition and thickness of each of a dielectric coating and a conductive coating of a conformal EMI shield such that, when applied to a surface of the printed wiring board having one of said at least one surface trace disposed thereon, said one surface trace has a desired characteristic impedance...” (*See*, claim 97, above.)

8. In fact, there is no consideration whatsoever in Chitwood of considering the characteristic impedance of the surface traces on Chitwood’s printed wiring board. Nor is there any teaching or suggestion in Chitwood that the composition and thickness of the dielectric layers 26 and 28 and metallic layers 32-40 be determined for any reason, let alone to attain a desired characteristic impedance of coated surface traces. Applicants therefore respectfully submit that claim 97, as amended, is patentable over Chitwood and the other art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of independent claim 97 be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Dependent Claims

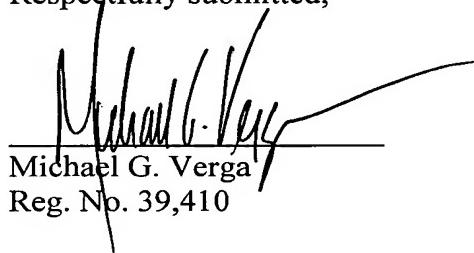
9. The dependent claims incorporate all of the subject matter of their respective independent claims and add additional subject matter which makes them a fortiori and

independently patentable over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the outstanding rejections of the dependent claims be reconsidered and withdrawn.

Conclusion

10. In view of the foregoing, this application should be in condition for allowance. A notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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